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## News and Notes

Florida Historical Society  
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## NEWS AND NOTES

### *County Centennials*

The celebration of Polk County's centennial this year has come about through several year's work on the part of the County Centennial Committee and local cooperating agencies. Another issue of this *Quarterly* will carry a full report of the events.

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On February 8, 1861, Baker County was created by an act of the legislature and named in honor of Circuit Judge James Baker. The county was formed from a portion of New River County and the name of the remaining part of New River was changed to Bradford. Thus New River, created in 1858, disappeared as a separate country in 1861. Plans have been made for celebrating the Baker County centennial during this year.

One other county's anniversary, though not a centennial, falls in 1961. This year marks Pinellas' 50th anniversary.

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### *The Southern Historical Association*

Dr. Rembert W. Patrick was elected vice president of the Association last year and will succeed to the presidency in 1962 when the group holds its annual meeting at the Fountainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach.

Other Floridians who have served as president of this group are Dr. Robert S. Cotterill (1948) and Dr. Kathryn A. Hanna (1953).

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### *The National Park Service*

A small library of books pertaining to the period of French colonization in America is being established at Fort Caroline National Memorial, near Jacksonville, by museum officials and Congressman Charles E. Bennett. Among the books already secured are *History of Huguenot Emigration*, by Charles E. Baird; *Les Refugies Huguenots en Amerique*, by Gilbert Chinard; and *The Florida of the Inca*, by Garcilaso de la Vega.

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The last issue of this *Quarterly* carried an article on the

National Historic Sites Registry. In December, announcement was made of 70 additional sites which have been declared eligible for listing in the Registry, but none of these are in Florida. The sites are selected on the basis of exceptional historic and archeological value, and point up special "theme studies" in the Park Service series which covers all the major periods of human history in America. The studies which have been selected follow.

- I. Prehistoric Hunters and Gatherers
- II. Early Indian Farmers
- III. Indian Villages and Communities
- IV. Spanish Exploration and Settlement
  - Spanish Colonial Sites in the Panama Canal Zone
- V. French Exploration and Settlement
- VI. English Exploration and Settlement to 1700
- VII. Dutch and Swedish Exploration and Settlement
- VIII. Contact with the Indians
- IX. Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775
- X. The War for Independence
- XI. The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830
  - Subtheme: The Lewis and Clark Expedition
  - Special Study: Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial
- XII. Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830
- XIII. Political and Military Affairs, 1830-1860
- XIV. The Civil War, 1861-1865
- XV. Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898 with a number of special themes and studies
- XVI. Indigenous Peoples and Cultures
- XVII. Commerce, Industry and Agriculture
- XVIII. Travel and Communication
- XIX. Development and Conservation of Natural Resources
- XX. The Arts and Sciences (with several subthemes)
- XXI. Political and Military Affairs after 1865
  - Special studies: Fort DeSoto; Hawaii; Alaska
- XXII. Social and Humanitarian Movements.

For additional information, write Fred Sarles, Historian, National Park Service, St. Augustine.

*National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections-  
Library of Congress*

The dream of scholars, librarians, archivists, and curators of manuscripts for more than half a century is being realized. The Council on Library Resources, Inc. in November 1958 made a grant of \$200,000 to the Library of Congress for the purpose of creating a National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections. The money was made available for (1) gathering the essential data from the many diverse types of repositories in the nation; (2) editing these data; (3) preparing catalog entries according to the standard catalog rules; (4) printing cards for the entries and furnishing each participating institution with the printed cards for its reported collections; and (5) establishing in the Library of Congress a national union catalog in dictionary form of all such collections.

The project became fully operational in April, 1959. To date approximately 500 libraries have offered their cooperation in supplying data on their collections. Material already has been received from slightly more than 200 repositories. Some 2,000 reports are on hand awaiting cataloging.

Further information on the project will be gladly supplied by Dr. Lester K. Born, Head, Manuscripts Section, Descriptive Cataloging Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.

*The American Association for State and Local History*

Clement M. Silvestro, director of the American Association for State and Local History, Madison, Wisconsin, has announced that the Association will award \$1,000 each year to the author of the unpublished manuscript in local history that makes the most distinguished contribution to United States or Canadian historiography. The first award will be made in 1961.

In addition to the \$1,000 prize, the Association has established a grant-in-aid program for significant *research* projects in local history. Both programs will be administered by the new Research and Publication Committee of the Association.

Clifford L. Lord, professor of history and Dean of the School of General Studies at Columbia University, is chairman of the Research and Publications Committee. Lord was director of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin from 1946 until 1958.

Among the members of the committee are Professors George Anderson, University of Kansas; Robert Athearn, University of Colorado; William C. Binkley, Tulane University; Gilbert Fite, University of Oklahoma; Joseph Frantz, University of Texas; Paul W. Gates, Cornell University; Oscar Handlin, Harvard University; William B. Hesseltine, University of Wisconsin; John Hicks, University of California; E. C. Kirkland, Thetford Linguistic Center; James Olsen, University of Nebraska; Rembert W. Patrick, University of Florida; Richard H. Shryock, American Philosophical Society; J. Duane Squires, Colby Junior College; and Wendell Stephenson, University of Oregon.

Also serving on the committee are Dean Roy F. Nichols, University of Pennsylvania; Frederick L. Rath, New York State Association; James H. Rodabaugh, Ohio Historical Society; and Clement M. Silvestro.

The committee will determine which of the manuscripts submitted in the competition shall receive the \$1,000 award. The award will convey to the Association the presumption of first publication rights to the manuscript.

The association may accept for publication other meritorious manuscripts submitted in the competition, but only one award of \$1,000 will be made each year. If the committee deems no manuscript worthy of the award in any year, no prize will be granted. Manuscripts must be scholarly in character and literary merit will be an important consideration.

This award has been established in the belief that local history can make a major contribution to American and Canadian historiography as a vital supplement to the broader interpretation of national or international history. Significant regional and community studies - the scholarly investigation of what happened, why it happened, who made it happen, and its relationship to trends and events elsewhere - can add greatly to an understanding of the nature and operation of the American experiment.

Research grants made under the new grant-in-aid program will be limited to necessary travel expenses, photocopy and clerical assistance, and similar items, specifically excluding compensation in lieu of salary. The president of the Association will make these grants on recommendation of the Research and Publication Committee. Condition of such grants shall be first publication rights.

Further information regarding either program may be obtained from Clement M. Silvestro, Director, American Association for State and Local History, 816 State Street, Madison 6, Wisconsin.

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*News of Historical Societies*

Congratulations to the Palm Beach Historical Society on the initiation of a membership news letter. The first issue, December 1, 1960, tells of the installation of the group's collection at the Henry Morrison Flagler Museum in Palm Beach and the cataloging of a growing library of Floridiana by member Ben S. Roberts. Recently a full set of the Florida Historical Quarterly was given to the society.

Mrs. William C. Williams spoke at the December meeting on pioneer life in the area and especially in Delray Beach, when it was a small settlement known as "Linton."

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Daniel B. Beard, Chief, Division of Interpretation, National Park Service, spoke on "History, Parks and The American People" at the January meeting of the Historical Association of Southern Florida.

The association participated in the dedication of a marker, placed by the National Park Service, honoring Dr. Samuel A. Mudd at Key West in March.

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The General Duncan L. Clinch Historical Society of Amelia Island has secured copies of *The Fernandina Guide* published by the WPA. Copies of this delightful little book are available for \$1.25 from President William L. Webb, Fernandina Beach.

T. T. Wentworth, Jr., Pensacola, a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Historical Society, spoke before the Amelia Island Society on the history of the Fernandina area at a recent meeting.

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At the annual business meeting of the St. Augustine Historical Society in January, J. T. Van Campen was re-elected to the presidency. Serving with him will be Albert C. Manucy, vice president and chairman of the board; Mrs. Max Kettner, secretary; Otis E. Barnes, treasurer; Luis R. Arana, librarian; and the

following directors: Frank D. Upchurch, W. W. Wilson, Mrs. Ralph W. Cooper, and W. I. Drysdale. Other members of the board of directors are: Milton E. Bacon, Norton Baskin, R. A. Speissegger, X. L. Pellicer, W. J. Winter, and David R. Dunham.

The society recently marked with a bronze plaque the Old Curiosity Shop on St. George Street. Other plaques and markers on order or planned will mark the Oldest House, the Triay House, the Tovar House, and the Fornells House (the Gun Shop).